Alconbury Parish Council

www.alconburyparishcouncil.gov.uk
Parish Clerk: Alison Brown
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Minutes of the Alconbury Parish Council meeting held in the Memorial Hall, Alconbury on Tuesday 30th April 2024 at 7:30 pm

Present: Councillors: T. Gilbert (Chair), S. Brawn, S. Isaacs, B. Johnson, T. MacLennan, C. Pinn and Mrs Brown (Clerk).

Members of the public: 12 HDC/CCC: Cllr Ian Gardener TABFG representative: Mr Charles Dalleywater

Public Question Time
Public Bodies (admissions to meetings) Act 1960 s 1 extended by the LGA 1972 s 100

1. Residents voiced their concern at the Parish Council's idea to install a piece of play equipment on the green space on the Bird's Estate. Some affected parishioners had not initially received the Parish Council's survey to be able to submit comments. The area is badly affected with anti-social behaviour from children, in particular, balls games are being played near residential properties and causing damage to private property including vehicles and fences. Dogs are also causing an issue running loose through the estate.

Cllr Gilbert stated that the Parish Council had already been made aware of ball games being played near to properties and would be putting up 'No ball games' signs in the vicinity of the affected area.

Cllr Gardener informed the residents that he would arrange a meeting with the local Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) and residents to try and address the issues.

Residents were reminded that all anti-social behaviour should be reported to the police.

2. Residents noted that Highways have errected barriers under the A1M flyover where visitors to Lords Way and members of the public had been parking. This was limiting the parking available for carers and emergency vehicles needing access to Lords Way. The barriers had been erected in front of the A1M's supporting pillars as there is an issue with water flowing from above and increasing the potential for flooding in this area. Cllr Gardener informed the meeting that Highways will be providing plans for solving the issues under the A1M flyover including re-instating the soakaway in this area which he will share with residents. The residents asked that any plans include disabled/carer parking and that all residents are treated equally. At the moment, one resident has coned off Highways land for their own parking and this is causing upset to the residents in Lords Way. This was agreed by Cllr Gardener.

Cllr C. Pinn asked the Chair to contact Highways to request that the parking area was kept, as it is an asset used by residents accessing the allotments, the dog training field, and also visitors to the residents of Lords Way that we did not want to lose. The Chair stated that they would do this.

3. Residents gave their comments regarding the Parish Council's survey which asked residents what solution they would like to see put in place to stop HGV's travelling along Brookside. The main purpose of the survey was to get residents thinking of a preferred solution and to think what would work. No solution was agreed at the time with the excpetion of larger signage, see item 0424.214, section 4.1. It was also asked when would the ford be re-opened. Charles Dalleywater stated that he would contact the Environment Agency and ask the question.

0424.202 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr M. Gunney, Cllr S. Button and Cllr L. Pinn.

0424.203 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
Cllr MacLennan – agenda item 024.212.1. and 024.212.5.
Cllr C. Pinn – agenda item 024.212.1.

0424.204 CO-OPTION OF PARISH COUNCILLORS
No applications received.

0424.205 THE ALCONBURY BROOK FLOOD GROUP
1. Mr Charles Dalleywater gave his report which is appended to these minutes

2. No other matters

0424.206 REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR
Cllr Gardener read out his report which is appended to these minutes.

It was noted that Huntingdonshire District Council (HDC) Planning Officer was willing to meet with all Parish Councils to explain how the planning process works and answer any questions that they may have on planning applications. Cllr Gardener agreed to organise the meeting.

Due to his workload and County/District Councillor commitments, Cllr Gardener will now be attending Parish Council meetings every other month unless there is an urgent matter. He will try and provide a report when not attending.

0424.207 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN
Members of the Parish Council met with a planning consultant, Rachel Hogger on Tuesday 23rd April 2024. Rachell Hogger will be sending the Parish Council information on how to move forward and progress the plan. The Parish Council was informed that it needs to seek opportunities for funding to help with the plan and that £10,000 should be allocated in the budget to help with the associated costs. It was noted that the community needs to be more involved in the production of the plan. It was agreed to promote the plan at the village fete in July.

0424.208 BRAMPTON CROSS DEVELOPMENT
No update.

0424.209 CROWN GARDENS
The Chair, Vice Chair and Cllr Gardener visited Crown Gardens on the 17th April along with Jon Collen from HDC where they met the new Service Site Manager Amy Goodson.

There have not been many changes to residents recently. A shed on the side of the property to Bell Lane is about to be installed, which will prevent access to the rear of the properties on Bell Lane for ball games. Places for People are also looking into a new front door to prevent slamming and the associated noise. Professionals are being invited onto the site to provide support to residents.

0424.210 MINUTES FOR APPROVAL
RESOLVED: The minutes of the Alconbury Parish Council meeting held on 26th March 2024 were agreed as a correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chair.

0424.211 PLANNING APPLICATIONS
1. To resolve to submit comments where appropriate on applications
No planning applications received.

2. Received update on previous planning applications:
- 23/80349/COND: Discharge of condition 10 (Key Phase 2 Framework) for 201158OUT Alconbury Airfield, Ermine Street, Little Stukeley PE28 4WX – Pending decision.
- 23/01226/FUL Retrospective application for erection of a new building at Research Centre Woolley Road, Alconbury – In progress.
- 23/01547/FUL - Erection of Generators, Fuel Tank and Utility Building (Retrospective) at Research Centre, Woolley Road, Alconbury Huntingdon PE28 4HS – In progress.
- 24/00102/S73 - Removal of Condition 2 (Plans listed in table above) of 23/01908/LBC at 5 The Maltings, Alconbury, Huntingdon PE28 4DZ – Approved.
- 24/00093/S73: Variation of condition 2 (Plans) for 23/01907/HHFUL at 5 The Maltings Alconbury, Huntingdon PE28 4DZ – Approved.

0424.212 COUNCILLORS UPDATES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING
Received verbal reports from the Parish Councillors on their portfolio responsibilities and matters arising from previous meeting and resolve any action;
1. Memorial Hall

Cllr MacLennan reported that the hall had been awarded a grant of £3000.00 for new windows. The grass cutting contractor is unable to get his mower through the new gate therefore the purchase of a mower is being considered so that the grass can be cut by volunteers. This means that the grass cutting contract would need to be re-evaluated at the end of the year. The Hall Committee Annual General Meeting is on 7th May 2024 and everyone was invited to attend.

2. Tree Warden
Cllr MacLennan stated that there was a dead tree in the verge on Blackbird Way. Ownership is being established as it is not owned by the Parish Council.

3. Alconbury Recreation Field Charity & Alconbury Sports and Social Club (ASSC)
   - To resolve appointment of Trustees to attend ASSC Committee meetings
     ASSC informed the Parish Council that the lease states that 2 councillors must be appointed as Trustees. However, it would suffice only one attending their committee meetings. Their Annual General Meeting is on 13th May 2024.
     RESOLVED: To appoint Cllr Johnson and Cllr Issacs as Parish Council Trustees. Both Councillors to attend the Annual General Meeting on 13th May 2024. Cllr Johnson will attend the monthly ASSC committee meetings.

4. Bramble End Play Area
Cllr MacLennan to carry out the next monthly inspection.
RESOLVED: To instruct Wicksteed to carry out the annual inspection of the play area.

5. Woolley Hill Wind Farm
Cllr MacLennan reported that the recent round of grant applications was oversubscribed. However, most applicants received at least half of their funding request.

6. Planning Working Group
See item 0424-207 above regarding a proposed meeting with HDC Planning Officer.

7. Alconbury Weald – Joint Parishes Meetings
It was agreed to take this item off the agenda as Paul Murfin, Urban & Civic representative will be attending the September Parish Council to provide an update.

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0424.213 VILLAGE CRIME

The Clerk provided the following crime figures taken from www.Police.uk crime map:

- February 2024 –5 reports of crime within the village.

0424.214 INFRASTRUCTURE

Received updates and resolved actions

1. Churchyard
   The churchyard was tidied at the weekend.

2. Village Green
   The Village Green First Registration application is still being processed by Land Registry.

3. Roads and Footpaths
   - No update on the submitted CCC funding application for a 20mph speed limit in village.

4. General
   1. LHI bid strategy
      a. Brookside parking issues and HGV access – The results of the consultation appear to show that there is a 50/50 split on a one-way system through Brookside. It was stated that area is already well sign posted. However, drivers do not take any notice. It was agreed to explore larger signage and to also consider increasing the signage to state 'No access HGV's' as the next LHI bids.

      b. Weight limit on B1043 – The next traffic survey on the B1043 is w/c 13th May 2024.

0424.215 DEFIBRILLATORS

No reports

0424.216 GARDEN SUBSCRIPTION SERVICE - 10 BINS IN THE PARISH FOR COMMUNITY USE
The Parish Council have been informed that they do not qualify for the scheme as the churchyard is not a HDC area maintained by the Parish Council.

Cllr MacLennan and Cllr C. Pinn left the meeting for the next agenda item.

0424.217 MEMORIAL HALL GRANT APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT
The grant request for £2000.00 from the Memorial Hall Committee for help towards the running costs of the hall were discussed. It was agreed that the Parish Council is not able to commit to paying a grant on an annual basis. However, it is willing to consider applications for any specific projects.
RESOLVED: To award a grant of £2000.00 towards the refurbishment of creating a new upstairs meeting room which will allow the hall to earn more revenue.

Cllr MacLennan and Cllr C. Pinn re-joined the meeting.

0424.218 FINANCE
1. **RESOLVED:** Payment of outstanding April debts:

Four Seasons (Antony Abbs)	Parish grass cutting 1st instalment (SO)	£2076.00
Scribe (Starboard Systems Ltd)	Accounts software annual renewal	£414.72
Alconbury Hall	Meeting room hire 28/05/2024	£14.00
Alconbury Over 60's Club	Grant S137 LGA 1972 – 70th Anniversary celebrations	£125.00
CAPALC	Annual renewal affiliation and Data Protection Officer	£559.78
A Brown – Clerk	Clerk's salary April 2024	£836.16
HMRC	Clerk's Tax & NI April 2024	£231.10
NEST	Clerk's Pension April 2024	£33.15

2. Monies received

HDC precept – 2nd instalment	£19558.00

RESOLVED: The Chair confirmed the receipts and bank reconciliation as correct.

3. 2024/2025 Budget allocation – No amendments required.

0424.219 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED
None.

0424.220 MATTERS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION
Condition of Globe Lane
Buses shaking houses on School Lane and The Paddock.

0424.221 NEXT MEETING
Annual Meeting of the Parish Council Tuesday 28th May 2024, Memorial Hall, School Lane, Alconbury at 7:30 pm, preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting at 7:00 pm.

The meeting closed at 9:37 pm.